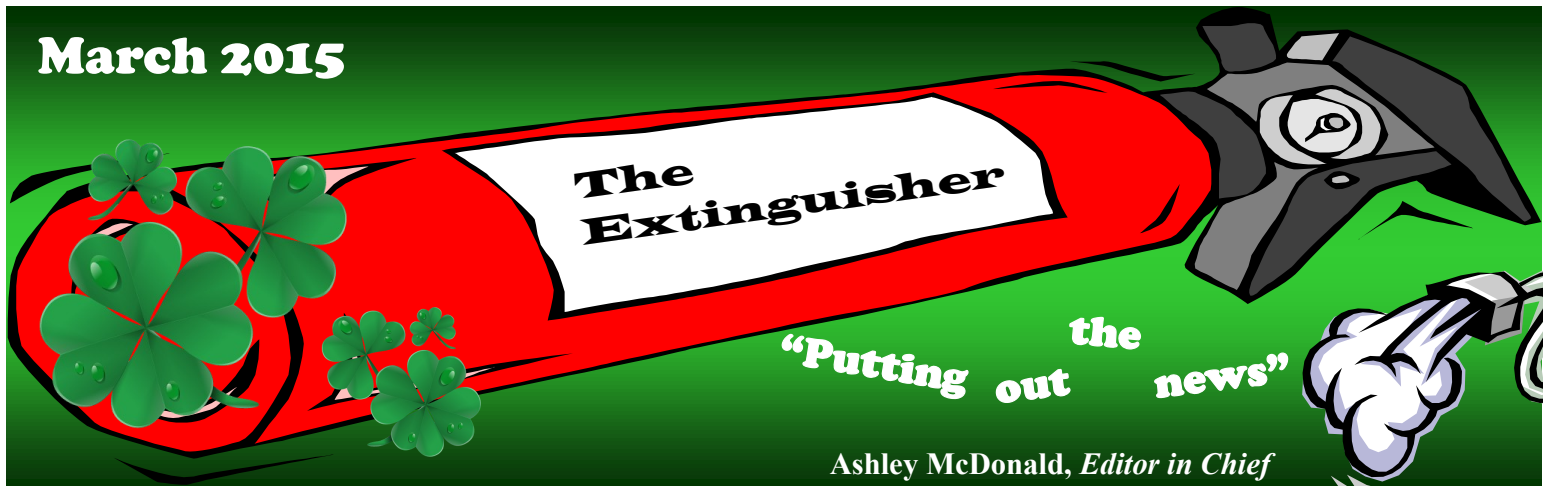


March 2015



Birthdays

Ashley Johnson 3/1

Marcus King 3/1

Kyle Cobb 3/2

Jimmy Barrett 3/4

Tim Swann 3/4

Greg Robinson 3/6

Britt Gammon 3/10

Doug English 3/15

Ben Thorpe 3/15

Jeff Clementi 3/16

Lucas Dearden 3/20

Eugene Todd 3/21

Alan Farrar 3/22

Randy Rae 3/23

David Cranford 3/25

Scott Duncan 3/25

Mike Adams 3/28



MFRD REMINDS YOU TO “CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES”

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 8 at 2:00 am...time to set your clocks ahead one hour. While you rejoice about the extra hour of daylight, Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department wants to remind you that it's also a great time to change the batteries in your smoke alarms!

“Batteries in smoke alarms should be changed twice a year, approximately every six months,” said Assistant Fire Marshal Tracy Summar. “A great trick to remembering is to change your batteries when you change your clock each Fall and each Spring.”

If you need assistance with changing your batteries or need additional smoke alarms in your home, contact MFRD Fire Administration Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm at 615-893-1422 to take advantage of Project S.A.F.E. “Smoke Alarms for Everyone.” MFRD offers free smoke alarms/installation to the citizens of Murfreesboro, even specialty alarms for the hearing or visually impaired.

Remember, you should have smoke alarms on every level of your home including the basement, in every bedroom, and outside sleeping areas. Smoke alarms should also be tested monthly.

“Having working smoke alarms in your home is extremely important,” said Summar. “It can cut your risk of fire-related death in half.”

Here's a public service announcement from the City of Murfreesboro to remind you to “Change Your Clock, Change Your Batteries”: <http://youtu.be/kdupXgrJrH4>.

MFRD WELCOMES FOUR NEW FIREFIGHTERS

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department welcomed four new members this week. Firefighters Corian Barrett, Jason Bonniger, Marcus Cartwright, and Eric Compton began orientation March 2.

Barrett, Cartwright, and Eric Compton are licensed Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians (AEMTs) and Bonniger is a Paramedic. Combined, they have 32 years of fire service experience.

“We are very excited to have these gentlemen on board,” said Assistant Chief Kaye Jernigan. “We are confident that their skills and knowledge will prove to be a great asset to the department and we're excited to see them in action.”

The four will begin shift work this weekend and will be stationed at MFRD Headquarters on Vine Street. Learn more about the new hires on Page 3.



Pictured (L to R): Corian Barrett, Jason Bonniger, Marcus Cartwright, and Eric Compton.

MFRD HOSTS PEDIATRIC TRAINING

BY: ASSISTANT CHIEF KIM LAWSON

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department hosted pediatric training by Monroe Carell, Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt on February 5th and 25th at the Patterson Park Community Center. A total of 161 Emergency Medical Responders, EMTs, EMT-IV, AEMT, and Paramedics attended the four-hour training, taught by Eric Clauss, MSN, RN, EMT-P; Lee Blair, RN, CEN, EMT-P, IC; Lacey Noffsinger, BSN, RN, CPN.



Students from MFRD, as well as emergency personnel from the surrounding counties, participated in the interactive training which included subjects of Pediatric Medical Illness, Trauma Injuries, and Case Studies. MFRD Assistant Chief Kim Lawson who is a Paramedic states, "The training we received from one of the most professional and experienced medical centers will certainly give us the continued and important information needed to treat sick and injured children when seconds count." Lawson states that it is often emotionally challenging to respond to a critical child and this pediatric training will assist all of the departments' responders with the most current medical treatments for patients.



Pictured (L to R): Eric Clauss, MFRD Fire/Medical Training Coordinator Nicole Miller, Lacey Noffsinger, Assistant Chief Kim Lawson, and Lee Blair.

MFRD DRIVERS ARE FIRST TO COMPLETE TFACA'S DRIVER SIMULATOR COURSE

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Drivers completed a Driver Simulator Course in February. MFRD was the first department to participate in the course which was recently added to the curriculum for the Tennessee Fire Service & Codes Academy (TFACA).

"Vehicle accidents remain one of the leading causes of firefighter fatalities. The Tennessee Fire Service & Codes Academy's new driving simulator gives more safety training and situational awareness for firefighters who might be operating vehicles while responding to a fire," said Jeff Elliott, Fire Service Program Director. "The Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department is the first fire department in the state to receive this training. The academy appreciates the ongoing support from Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue and its commitment to training."



According to the course description from TFACA, the course creates real-world experiences that enable Drivers to hone their skills with a variety of challenging situations. Drivers can learn basic vehicle operations to more advanced scenario-based tactical training for many vehicle types. The training enables the student to experience various situations without the logistical, legal, and moral ramifications that could automatically be attached to a mistake on the streets. Unlike traditional driver safety courses that emphasize skills, laws, and knowledge, the simulator empowers drivers to review their attitudes and find new ways to break old habits.

TFACA Instructors Joey Edwards, Chris Knutsen, Terry Potter, Charles Armstrong, and Jeremy Martin used extensive PowerPoint presentations consisting of vehicle checks, safety, and the laws pertaining to *Vanessa K. Free** before students rotated through the simulator.

MFRD Driver David Cranford remarked, "This course will be an excellent tool for novice Drivers. It's an experience that will significantly help personnel that are learning to drive various types of fire apparatus."

"The simulator is a unique learning tool, and we are very grateful that TFACA brought the unit to Murfreesboro and allowed our personnel to be the pioneer students for the course," said Assistant Chief Kaye Jernigan.

**The "Vanessa K. Free Emergency Services Training Act of 2005" was passed into law requiring additional training of emergency response drivers in Tennessee.*

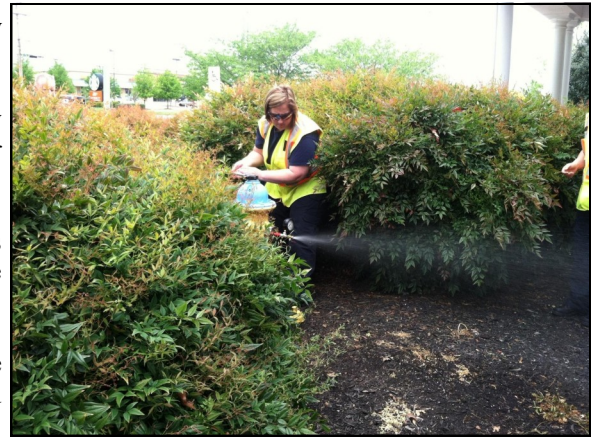
MFRD TO BEGIN ANNUAL HYDRANT FLOW TESTING

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department will start its annual hydrant flow testing program on Monday, March 16.

“MFRD personnel will test approximately 5,400 hydrants throughout the City of Murfreesboro over the next six months,” said Deputy Chief Roger Toombs.

MFRD is required by Insurance Service Offices (ISO) to flush hydrants annually and maintain records on those hydrants. MFRD conducts pressure tests annually as well.

Hydrants are also greased and any maintenance issues are reported to the respective water departments: Murfreesboro Water and Sewer Department and Consolidated Utility District.



“Annual flow testing of hydrants is so important. It helps us make sure they are in proper working order with good pressure so they are ready when we need them the most,” said Toombs.

Businesses and residents in the city limits can help MFRD personnel by making sure that there are no obstructions around hydrants on their property.

The 2012 International Fire Code states the following:

507.5.4 Obstruction. Unobstructed access to fire hydrants shall be maintained at all times. The fire department shall not be deterred or hindered from gaining immediate access to fire protection equipment or fire hydrants.

507.5.5 Clear space around hydrants. A 3-foot (914 mm) clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants, except as otherwise required or approved.

Businesses and residents who have overgrown vegetation or other forms of hydrant obstruction will receive letters from the Fire Marshal’s Office giving them 48 hours to remedy the issue.

If you receive a letter and have questions, please contact MFRD Administration Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm at 615-893-1422.

GETTING TO KNOW THE NEW HIRES

Want to know a little bit more about MFRD’s newest Firefighters? Look no further... Corian Barrett has been in the fire service for seven years. He enjoys exercising/fitness, basketball, mixed martial arts, reading, photography, church, and fire range shooting. He also spends time volunteering with teens after school. Jason Bonniger has been in the fire service for five years. His career began in Williamson County. He moved back to Rutherford County two years ago and has volunteered for Rutherford County Fire and Rescue since his return. He has eight years experience in EMS. He enjoys football, exercising, hockey, and canoeing. Marcus Cartwright has been in the fire service for 15 years. His hobbies include golfing, outdoor activities, and going to the lake in the summer. He and his wife of 14 years, Julie Kay, have two girls, Kateland and Blaire. Eric Compton, born and raised in Murfreesboro, has five years of fire service experience. In his spare time, he enjoys working out, spending time with family, church, going to the beach, and snowboarding. He is getting married this June.

NOBLES NAMED FIREFIGHTER OF THE MONTH FOR MARCH 2015

Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department named Driver Ronald Nobles Firefighter of the Month for March 2015.

Fire/Medical Training Coordinator Nicole Miller nominated Nobles after witnessing him go above and beyond for a citizen. During a First Responder Class, a gentleman and his young daughter had run out of gas and had just enough fumes to get them pulled into the driveway of the station. Nobles, who lives near the station, went home, grabbed a gas can, filled it full, and brought it back to the station to fill up the tank for the citizen.

“He didn’t think twice about it,” said Miller. “He is truly deserving of recognition for this act of kindness.” Nobles has been with MFRD since June 1990.



DRIVER SIMULATOR COURSE CONT...



Pictured (L to R): Drivers Tim Rowlett, David Bricker, Paul Oliver, Chase Martin, Karl Daigle, Kyle Cobb, Doug Rivait, Kenneth Richmond, Jack Black, Richard Crick, Josh Oliver, Chris Mikolon, David Cranford, Eddie Mitchell, and Captain/Shift Training Officer Terry Smith.

MFRD PLACES WREATH AT FIREFIGHTER MEMORIAL

March 1 was the 76th anniversary of the death of two Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department Firefighters. Winfred Vaughn and AC Cartwright were killed March 1, 1939 on the way to a grass fire, when the fire truck they were riding on was struck by another vehicle.

MFRD personnel placed a wreath at the site of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial located on the northwest side of the public square.



Personnel from B-Shift's Ladder 1 crew placed a floral wreath at the site of the Fallen Firefighters Memorial on March 1.

Pictured (L to R): Driver Guy Matthews and Firefighters Wesley Slager and Justin Lewis.



March Anniversaries

31 YEARS

Jack Black

24 YEARS

Laurie Alsup

16 YEARS

Michael Bartlett

Blake Insell

Jeff Irvin

David Sloan

11 YEARS

Dale Bilbrey

Bo Jones

Joe Pennington

Shan Womack

9 YEARS

Alan Farrar

8 YEARS

Ashley McDonald

3 YEARS

Jamie Layhew

*"There is no
higher honor than
human service. To
work for the
common good is
the greatest deed."*

—Unknown